

Claims

1. A method of setting up a call in a communications network using a mobile station in the absence of a SIM card, comprising obtaining default information from the mobile station which is stored elsewhere than on a SIM card and using the said information to carry out substantially standard call set up procedures in a cellular mobile communications network.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the network provides limited functionality to the mobile station as a consequence of the use of the default information during call set up.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the functionality is limited to the setting up of emergency calls.
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the functionality is limited to the setting up of non-chargeable calls.
5. A mobile station for use in a cellular mobile radio network, comprising
 - (a) a SIM card reader for receiving a SIM card,
 - (b) mobile authentication means arranged to interact with the network to set up a call via the network, and
 - (c) an identity database arranged to hold default identity data,
 the mobile authentication means being arranged to access the identity database in the absence of a SIM card in order to obtain identity information to use during interaction with the network during call set up.
6. A plurality of mobile stations according to claim 5, wherein each mobile station has different respective default identity data which permits the network to distinguish between mobile stations when authentication occurs in the absence of a SIM card.
7. A plurality of mobile stations according to claim 5, wherein each mobile station is arranged to be temporarily assigned different respective default identity data which permits the network to distinguish between mobile stations when authentication occurs in the absence of a SIM card.

8. A cellular radio network comprising,
5 (a) network authentication means, and
(b) call set up means,
the network authentication means being arranged to recognise default
identification data and to initiate limited functionality call set up via the call
set up means responsive to the default identity data.
- 10 9. A network according to claim 8, wherein the call set up functionality is limited
to set up of an emergency call.
- 15 10. A communications system comprising a plurality of mobile stations and a
network operable to provide wireless communications services to the mobile
stations, at least one of the mobile stations including a default identity value
which is used by the network to provision a sub-set of the wireless
communications services.
- 20 11. A system according to claim 10, wherein the sub-set comprises emergency
calls.
12. A system according to claim 10, wherein the or each mobile station includes
a plurality of default identity values.
- 25 13. A system according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of mobile stations have
include different respective default identity values.
14. A system according to claim 10 wherein the default value is a predetermined
30 IMSI.